

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of a certified copy of the priority document submitted January 14, 2002.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 14, 2002.

**Status of the Application**

Claims 2-12 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claims 11 and 12 are hereby added to more fully define the current invention, and as claim 1 is hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-10 have been rejected.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2-10 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant hereby rewrites claim 2 in independent form (claims 3-12 depend from claim 2). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-12 are immediately allowable.

**Indefiniteness Rejection**

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The informalities noted by the Examiner have been corrected. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**Anticipation Rejection**

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hiramoto et al. (US 5,338,219; hereinafter “Hiramoto”). As claim 1 has been cancelled, this rejection is believed to be moot.

**New Claims**

Claims 11 and 12 are hereby added. Claims 11 and 12 are fully supported *at least* by FIG. 1 of the instant Application. Claims 11 and 12 are respectfully submitted to be allowable *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-12 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 2-12.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Application No. 10/043,110

Attorney Docket # Q68048

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 12, 2003